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LETTER DATED 26 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to my letter addressed to you dated 17 January 2000 regarding the appointment of the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC). I understand from your communication to me today that while all the members of the Security Council expressed their highest esteem for Ambassador Rolf Ekéus, there was no consensus on his nomination.

In the light of your consultations and the consensus that has now emerged, I wish to recommend that Dr. Hans Blix of Sweden be appointed Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC. A copy of Dr. Blix's curriculum vitae is attached for information (see annex). I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council so that I may proceed to take action in terms of operative paragraph 5 of Council resolution 1284 (1999).

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

Annex

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Hans Blix

Dr. Hans Blix served as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency from 1981 till 1997.

Dr. Blix was born in 1928 at Uppsala, Sweden. He studied at the University of Uppsala; at Columbia University, where he was also a research graduate; and at Cambridge, where he received his Ph.D.

In 1959, he became Doctor of Laws at Stockholm University and in 1960 was appointed Associate Professor of International Law.

He has an Honorary Doctorate from Moscow State University (1987) and is a recipient of the Henry de Wolf Smyth Award (Washington, D.C., 1988).

From 1963 to 1976, Dr. Blix was Head of Department at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and served as Legal Adviser on International Law. In 1976, he became Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in charge of international development cooperation. He was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in October 1978.

From 1961 until 1981, he was a member of Sweden's delegation to the General Assembly, and from 1962 to 1978 a member of the Swedish delegation to the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva.

He has written several books on subjects associated with international and constitutional law, and was leader of the Liberal Campaign Committee in favour of retention of the Swedish nuclear energy programme in the referendum in 1980.